

Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended): A method of authenticating an identification document, wherein the identification document comprises a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document and a machine-readable code, said method comprising:

obtaining data representing the machine-readable code, wherein the machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information identifying ~~corresponding to~~ a jurisdiction or issuer that issued the identification document; and

determining authenticity of the identification document with reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

22. (previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code is provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from optical scan data generated by optical scanning of the identification document.

23. (previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code comprises steganographic encoding.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code comprises digital watermarking.

25. (previously presented): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 21.

26. (previously presented): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 23.

27. (previously presented): An apparatus comprising:
electronic processing circuitry; and
memory, wherein said memory comprises instructions executable by said electronic processing circuitry, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 21.

28. (previously presented): An apparatus comprising:
electronic processing circuitry; and
memory, wherein said memory comprises instructions executable by said electronic processing circuitry, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 23.

29. (currently amended): A method of providing an identification document comprising:

providing a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document on a document surface; and

providing a machine-readable code on the identification document, wherein the machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information identifying ~~corresponding to~~ a jurisdiction or issuer that issued the identification document;

whereby authenticity of the identification document is determined with reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

30. (previously presented): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code is provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from optical scan data generated by optical scanning of the identification document.

31. (previously presented): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code comprises steganographic encoding.

32. (previously presented): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code comprises digital watermarking.

33. (previously presented): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instruction to carry out the method of claim 29.

34. (previously presented): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instruction to carry out the method of claim 31.

35. (previously presented): An identification document provided according to claim 29.

36. (previously presented): An identification document provided according to claim 31.

37. (new): A method of providing an identification document comprising:
providing a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document on a document surface; and
providing a machine-readable code on the identification document, wherein the machine-readable code is provided through alterations to data representing imagery or graphics on the identification document so that the presence of the machine-readable code is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, wherein the machine-readable code comprises:
a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized bearer of the document, and
a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or issuer that issued the identification document;
whereby authenticity of the identification document is determined with reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

38. (new): A method of providing an identification document comprising:
providing a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document on a document surface; and
providing a machine-readable code on the identification document, wherein the machine-readable code is provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from scan data generated by visible light scanning of the identification document, wherein the machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized
bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or
issuer that issued the identification document;

whereby authenticity of the identification document is determined with
reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

39. (new): A method of authenticating an identification document, wherein the
identification document comprises a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the
document and a machine-readable code, said method comprising:

obtaining data representing the machine-readable code, wherein the machine-
readable code is provided through alterations to data representing imagery or graphics on
the identification document so that the presence of the machine-readable code is not
readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, and wherein the
machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized
bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or
issuer that issued the identification document; and

determining authenticity of the identification document with reference to at least
the first portion and the second portion.

40. (new): A method of authenticating an identification document, wherein the identification document comprises a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document and a machine-readable code, said method comprising:

obtaining data representing the machine-readable code, wherein the machine-readable code is provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from scan data generated by visible light scanning of the identification document, and wherein the machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding to the authorized bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or issuer that issued the identification document; and

determining authenticity of the identification document with reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.